REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 3, 4 and 6-10 are in the case.

I. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

In order to reduce the issues and advance prosecution, the claims in the application have been amended so as to be directed to a method for screening solar radiation, by stretching a transparent polymer having incorporated therein an interference pigment comprising a platelet shaped material. The polymer is stretched in at least one direction to at least twice its original length in that direction after incorporation of the pigment coating. Basis appears at page 2 lines 24-32. The remaining claims have been converted to method claims. No new matter is entered.

II. THE ANTICIPATION REJECTIONS

Claims 3-4, 6-8, and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Jones, Jr. *et al.* (US 6,179,939) (Jones). Claims 5 and 11-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Daponte *et al.* (WO 94/05727) (Daponte). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

The invention as claimed is clearly not anticipated by either Jones or Daponte. Jones does not disclose the use of the compositions for screening solar radiation, and Daponte does not disclose stretching the material disclosed therein. Absent any such disclosures, it is clear that the anticipation rejections should be withdrawn. Such action is respectfully requested.

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III. THE OBVIOUSNESS REJECTIONS

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Jones and further in view of Daponte. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daponte and further in view of Jones. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

At the outset, claims 6 and 9 are each dependent on claim 3 and therefore incorporate the features of claim 3 which are not disclosed by or suggested by Jones or Daponte. The subject matter of dependent claims 6 and 9 is likewise not suggested by Jones, alone or in view of Daponte.

The presently claimed invention is based on the recognition that the radiation screening properties of the compositions of the invention can be improved by stretching the tapes or filaments after incorporation of the pigment. Jones is irrelevant because it is concerned with an entirely different application, and does not provide the person of ordinary skill any information about the suitability of the composition disclosed therein for screening radiation, let alone what effect stretching the composition would have on that property. Therefore, the person of ordinary skill would not have considered Jones in the context of the present invention.

Daponte says nothing about stretching material. The person of ordinary skill skilled person would not gain anything from Daponte with regard to the discovery of the present invention that stretching the tapes or filaments after incorporation of the pigment improves their radiation screening properties.

In light of the above, it is clear that the person of ordinary skill would not have been motivated to combine Daponte and Jones because they are concerned with

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completely different applications. Even if they had been combined (it is believed that combining them would not have occurred to one of ordinary skill), the present invention would not have resulted or have been rendered obvious thereby, because neither document gives any information about the key feature of the effect of stretching on radiation screening properties, which characterizes the presently claimed invention.

Clearly, no *prima facie* case of obviousness is generated in this case. Withdrawal of the obviousness rejections is respectfully requested.

Favorable action is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

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